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ABSTRACT

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To achieve an improved support for introduction of
server pools in packet networks and further to achieve

10 transparency for applications, the present invention
provides a communication apparatus running a protocol
stack implementation for interworking between a
signaling source node and a signaling target node. The
communication apparatus comprises a first protocol

15 implementation unit (SCTP) adapted to run a signaling
control layer on top of a packet transfer network (IP)
for exchange of signaling messages via at least one
signaling association. Further, the communication
apparatus comprises a second protocol implementation

20 unit (SUA, M3UA) adapted to run a user adaptation layer
on top of the signaling control layer (SCTP) for support
of signaling connection control services (RANAP) used by
the signaling source node. A name mapping unit is
adapted to receive a signaling target node name from the

25 signaling source node and to map the signaling target
node name into a peer signaling association.

(Fig. 3)